

As a person who lost a job after 23 years at WWOR-TV because of the FOX Television acquisition of Chris-Craft I hope the FCC rejects any changes in the ownership rules. In fact, the only rule change that I would support is one that restricts TV ownership to one station per market with a cap of 30% or less of US coverage. Why? Because, in addition to the loss of my job, I have witnessed first hand what duopoly has done to my former station in New Jersey.

WWOR-TV was once a vibrant operation that employed hundreds of people, many from New Jersey where the station is licensed. Today the Channel 9 building in Secaucus, NJ is all but empty. FOX moved most of the operations to their studio in New York City. The entire Channel 9 news department will soon move to New York as well. So much for the effort we made, over many years, to establish the station in the state where it is supposed to be.

From a business point of view, WWOR-TV's billing has been decimated by FOX management who are trying to run it "on the cheap" with one sales manager for both WNYW and WWOR. Channel 5, being the more important FOX station gets all the attention while Channel 9 gets very little.

The FCC seems to grant Rupert Murdoch everything he asks for. He now owns a newspaper and 2 television stations in New York. Additionally, he also owns a sports channel serving NY teams.

From where I sit I would believe that Mr. Murdoch also owns the FCC.

Having spent most of my working life in the broadcast industry I know first hand the damage the FCC is doing to this business by allowing the few major companies to dominate the air waves. Radio is hurting as a result of this give-a-way and TV is not far behind it. The argument that the broadcast industry will suffer if the current rules are not relaxed is baloney. Programming will continue to flow to stations because people will continue to watch. A well run local station can achieve 40-50% profitability.

I am against a relaxation of the rules and I will vote against any political representative who supports FCC Chairman Powell's plan.